

ICW-K BULLETIN



ICW-K Executive Director giving some beneficiaries dignity packs in Migori County,

UNAIDS KENYA THROUGH ICW KENYA PUTS A SMILE ON THE FACES OF MANY!

by ICW-K

Mid 2021, the International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW Kenya Chapter) held consultative meetings with its membership in six counties including Nairobi, Homabay, Siaya, Migori, Kisumu, and Busia, to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak among WLHIV, AGYW, and PGBFW living with HIV. The women shared their experiences on how COVID-19 has vastly affected their livelihoods. Key highlights include loss of income and livelihoods, shut down of business and lack of food and other basic commodities among others.

With support from UNAIDS Kenya, the International Community of Women Living with HIV (ICW Kenya Chapter) set out to implement a project titled; Improving food security and menstrual hygiene of women living with HIV, Adolescents, girls, and young women, pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV and people living with disability in selected Counties in Kenya.

The project which targeted Women living with HIV (WLHIV), adolescents, girls, and young women (AGYW), pregnant and breast-feeding women (PGBFW) living with HIV and people living with disabilities. (PLWD), from the counties of Homa Bay, Kisumu, Siaya, Migori Busia and Nairobi's informal settlements, sought to achieve the following objectives;

1. To increase access to food for WLHIV, AGYW, pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV and people living with disability through the provision of food baskets
2. To improve menstrual hygiene for WLHIV, AGYW, pregnant and breastfeeding women living with HIV and people living with disability through the provision of sanitary pads

Over 5,000 beneficiaries from the 6 counties have benefitted stuff including maize meal flour, porridge flour, 2kg rice, sugar, 1 liter cooking oil, half kg salt and 2kg beans from the project; this is what some had to say;



“ASANTENI SANA WOFAK NA ICW KWA USAIDIZI WENU...” SAID BEATRICE AUMA FROM KAYOLE, NAIROBI

“I APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF KIJJI TO REACH OUT TO OUR TEENAGE MOTHERS. IT IS A GREAT HONOR TO SUPPORT TEENAGE MOTHERS WITH NUTRITIONAL PACKS DURING COVID-19 AND RESTORE DIGNITY TO THEIR CHILDREN. WE SAY ASANTE SANA.” LOCAL KIBERA CHIEF.

“THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME AND MY FAMILY. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS, FOOD PACKS AND HYGIENE PACKS...” SAID CAROLINE SEKWE-44 FROM BUSIA.



ACTION AID WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP STRATEGY LAUNCH

Written by ICW-K

The Action Aid Women's Political Leadership Strategy was officially launched on 23rd March 2022 by NARC-Kenya Party Leader, Hon. Martha Karua. The event began at exactly 10 pm and was facilitated by Judy Aduor from Action Aid, Kenya who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Daisy Amdany from Community Advocacy and Awareness Trust (CRAWN Trust) gave a current situational analysis of issues hindering women's political participation in Kenya. Among the issues that came up was the cost of an election in Kenya. Women struggle to raise finances to enable them to hold a proper political campaign since the election process is quite expensive from registration to the day of the ballot.



Another issue that came out was that women are engaging in the political process at the end, which is the day of the election. Daisy encouraged women to be involved from the beginning by first registering with their preferred political parties to enable them to be active and well-informed through the entire process. Gender-Based Violence also came out as a key issue in hampering women's political participation.

NARC- Kenya party leader, Hon. Martha Karua who was the keynote speaker of the day also echoed that politics is patriarchal and women need to believe in themselves first. She said, "If you do not believe in yourself as you talk to people...that doubt reveals itself"

Hon. Martha Karua asked the women to agree that they are politically accountable to the women in our country and the electorate. She encouraged the women vying in this year's election to leverage their networks for support and fundraising.

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“IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN YOURSELF AS YOU TALK TO PEOPLE... THAT DOUBT REVEALS ITSELF” -MARTHA KARUA

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Those in attendance at the meeting included; Nairobi Women Representative, Hon. Esther Passaris, The Registrar of political parties, Anne Nderitu, Professor Maria Nzomo who is among the pioneer activists for women's activism in politics in Kenya Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs & Special Programmes, Hon. Rachael Shebesh and Chief Administrative Secretary for the State Department for Gender, Hon. Dr. Linah Jebii Kilimo, IEBC Commissioner Justus Nyang'anya, Taita Taveta Deputy Governor, Hon. Majala Mlagui, Nyeri Deputy Governor, Dr. Caroline Karugu, among others.

INVEST TO END TB; SAVE THE WORLD.

Written by ICW-K



Participants during the World TB Day Hike Pre-activity at Iluyva Hills, Machakos County

This year's World TB Day theme was Invest to End TB. World TB Day is observed on 24 March each year to raise public awareness and understanding about one of the globe's deadliest infectious diseases, as well as its devastating health, social and economic impacts.

On 19th April, ICW-Kenya joined The Stop TB Partnership Kenya and other stakeholders for a hike to stop TB at Iluyva Hills in Machakos County. The hike was a pre-activity before the main event which was held at the Machakos Stadium.



Machakos County Governor during the official World TB Day event at Machakos Stadium, Machakos County

TB is both curable and preventable, yet globally more than 1 million people die each year from the disease. In Kenya TB is the 5th leading cause of death, claiming 53,000 lives yearly. In 2019, health centers reported & treated 86,504 cases, with about 10% being children.

The 2022 theme, calls for the need for investment to help fight TB globally. This is especially since the Covid-19 pandemic has taken End TB progress aback.

According to the UNAID World TB Day Factsheet ([Add hyperlink](#)) Of the TB deaths among people living with HIV, 50% were men, 40% were women and 9.8% were children. Also, Nearly 12 million TB-related HIV deaths were averted in the period 2000 to 2020 because of TB/HIV-related interventions.

IWD: LEGAL AID CLINIC IN MATHARE SUB-COUNTY

Written by ICW-K

A Legal Aid Clinic Training was organized by the International Community of Women Living with HIV – Kenya Chapter (ICW-K) on 8th March 2022. the training was one of our activities under the African Women Development Fund (AWDF) Funding.

This day coincided with International Women’s Day, and issues to do with women including the Rights of Women and Empowerment were discussed at large. The training was held at Jumuia Hospital Huruma in Mathare sub-county from 9.00 am – 2.00 pm. The training was attended by twenty-two women living with/affected by HIV. Carlin Alusa and. Teddy Nabutola facilitated the training. Teddy is a lawyer by profession while Carlin is a HIV Champion.



Teddy Nabutola addressing participants during the legal aid clinic




This legal aid clinic training was aimed at equipping women in the community with knowledge of legal rights so that they are empowered and know the right place to get assistance in case their rights are violated.

Many Women Living with HIV (WLHIV) do not know where to go when they are abused or when their rights are violated. They have no idea that the tribunal is there to assist them like any other human being. During the COVID -19 era, many women were abused and did not know what to do or where to go for help.

Therefore, this training was an eye-opener for participants to gain knowledge about their rights, especially in their community.

Sessions discussed during the training included: Information on HIV – Stigma & Discrimination, Adherence to Treatment Defaulter, Human Rights and Gender Issues, SRHR, Self-love and Care, HIV and Aids Tribunal (HAT), Cases that can be handled by the tribunal among others

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International Community of
Women Living With HIV



ICW-Kenya Chapter



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